Julee Shamhart flew the Ruby elk Sunday, May 22, with Neil Cadwell. Many of the collared elk have traveled significant distances (20-40 miles) since the last flight three weeks ago.

We flew into the valley over the Greenhorns and over the Robb Ledford WMA. We located several elk at the head of Ledford Creek and dropping into the West Fork of the Ruby River. We then flew back north and located a few groups along Springbrook Creek and Dry Hollow. After several passes we were unable to locate any additional collars in the Blacktail/Robb Ledford area, so we proceeded southeast toward Lima Reservoir. We located several small groups in the Antelope Peak area just north of the Red Rock River. We then flew further east and located additional groups between Elk Lake and Henrys Lake. We flew back along the Ruby River where we located two additional collars and made a final pass over the Blacktail and Robb Ledford WMA areas.

All four of the VITs were located and on live mode (Figure 1). No calves were observed during the flight.

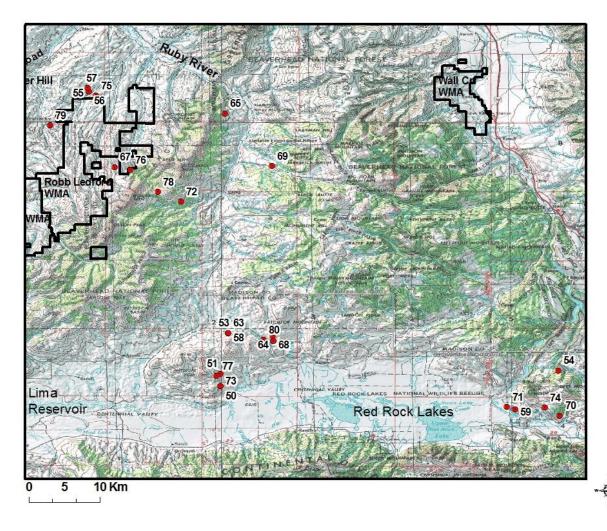


Figure 1. Collared elk locations recorded during May 22nd research flight. Numbers refer to elk ID numbers.